

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 (ISO) W

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3448

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 0537

NODIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

REFS: STATE 012756, BRASILIA 0483

1. SILVEIRA HAS TALKED TO PRESIDENT GEISEL, WHO HAS AGREED TO RECEIVE THE SECRETARY AT 10:00 A.M. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20. THUS THE FEBRUARY 19-22 DATES FOR THE BRASILIA-RIO VISIT ARE CONFIRMED.

2. HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS IN LIGHT OF PAST EXPERIENCES, SILVEIRA NOW RECOMMENDS A DATE LATER THAN FEBRUARY 2 FOR THE JOINT ANNOUNCEMENTS, UNLESS BY FEBRUARY 2 THE VISIT ON THE AGREED DATES IS "ABSOLUTELY IRREVERSIBLE". ALTHOUGH SOUTO MAIOR, SILVEIRA'S CHIEF OF CABINET, WHO PASSED THE ABOVE INFO TO THE DCM, DID NOT SUGGEST A SPECIFIC LATER DATE FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT, I RECALL SILVEIRA'S TELLING ME THAT IN PARIS HE HAD RECOMMENDED TO THE SECRETARY THAT AN ANNOUNCEMENT BE MADE "ONLY A FEW DAYS" BEFORE THE VISIT. I WOULD SUPPOSE THAT FEBRUARY 9 WOULD MEET THE BRAZILIAN CRITERION.

3. FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE EMBASSY'S NEED TO MOVE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (HOTEL SPACE BEING THE MOST VISIBLE ELEMENT), I HOPE THAT BY FEBRUARY 2 THE TRIP IS INDEED IRREVERSIBLE AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT CAN BE MADE THEN. BUT I AGREE WITH SILVEIRA THAT IF THE VISIT IS NOT A SURE THING BY FEBRUARY 2, THE ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE HELD OFF.

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4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS FOR RESPONSE TO FOREIGN
MINISTRY.
CRIMMINS

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